

## **Housing & Residential Life Policies**

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Webster University seeks to provide a positive living-learning environment supporting its mission to ensure high quality learning experiences that transform students for global citizenship and individual excellence. The concepts of personal integrity and community responsibility remain central to this mission. The following community expectations have been created to aid in this endeavor. Individuals are expected to comply with these expectations, even if they do not reside in campus housing. The genesis of each expectation can be found in these concepts. Each student's participation with campus housing is conditioned upon acceptance of these concepts and behavior consistent with them.

Additionally, vital conversations are central to the creation and maintenance of a positive and productive community. Such conversations include peer accountability. Accordingly, individuals are expected to use campus resources to confront behavior that does not comply with these community expectations. Remaining in the presence of acts that violate these expectations, even if one is not actively participating, may still be considered a violation through implied consent.

These expectations support and are in addition to local, state, and federal law as well as the [Webster University Student Code of Conduct](#). Although individuals are expected to adhere to these policies while on campus, every member of the campus community remains accountable to applicable law and the Student Code of Conduct regardless of whether they are on or off campus. Behavior that does not comply with the Student Code of Conduct while on campus may still be referred to the student conduct process. Additionally, while not specifically outlined below, students who reside on-campus are still subject to the university's COVID-19 policies and directives. An alleged violation of these items will result in referral to the Student Code of Conduct process.

### **Alcohol**

Webster University acknowledges the use of alcohol for individuals 21 years of age and older is a personal choice. However, the university also recognizes the choice to use alcohol in some circumstances may impede the university's goal of providing a positive, living-learning environment. Accordingly, the university allows the use of alcohol within the following parameters:

#### **Alcohol Type One:**

Individuals who are of legal age to possess and consume alcohol may have alcohol in their assigned residential space for personal consumption. Alcohol may only be consumed by individuals of legal age, 21 years of age or older. Individuals who are not 21 years of age or older may not possess or consume alcohol. Individuals on campus are prohibited from providing alcohol to individuals under 21 years of age.

Disruptive behavior related to the consumption of alcohol is prohibited even if the alcohol is consumed off campus.

### Alcohol Type Two:

Given the health concerns related to the over-consumption and rapid consumption of alcohol individuals may not possess excessive amounts of alcohol on campus and/or possess or use devices intended for the rapid consumption of alcohol. This includes, but is not limited to, kegs, beer bongs, and beer pong. Collections of alcohol containers are prohibited on campus. Additionally, alcohol may not be consumed in a public spaces including, but not limited to, hallways, lounges, parking lots, apartment patios/balconies, or the Webster Village Apartment (WVA) clubhouse. Alcohol may not be in the presence of individuals under 21 years of age, with the exception of a roommate

### **Appliances**

In seeking to provide a safe living and learning environment, Webster University limits the appliances that may be used within residential facilities. Appliances with exposed or open heating elements are prohibited, except for coffee makers with an automatic shut off function.

For the 2020 – 2021 academic year, microwaves less than 1,200 watts are permitted within individual residence hall rooms (1 per room). An additional microwave is provided within the kitchenette area on each floor within the residence halls as well as the kitchen in West Hall. Individuals residing in the Webster Village Apartments are also permitted to have microwaves, toasters, and university-provided appliances. Housing & Residential Life reserves the right to prohibit students from keeping appliances within their assigned space, if they do not utilize them responsibly.

Residence hall rooms are limited to one refrigerator per room. Refrigerators may have a maximum capacity of 5.0 cubic feet and must be Energy Star rated.

### **Barbecue Grills**

Storing grills within university housing is prohibited, including Glen Park, Big Bend, and North Hall Apartments. This includes common walkways, in front of units, and on patios or balconies.

On campus, only the community grill provided near the clubhouse may be used. For the convenience of other residents, please leave the equipment, grills, and area clean for the next resident. Failure to leave the area clean may result in a fine. See the Housing & Residential Life Office regarding the use of the community grill located adjacent to the pool area.

Glen Park, Big Bend, and North Hall Apartment residents are not allowed to use personal grills anywhere on the property.

### **Bicycles and Scooters**

Individuals should store bicycles and scooters on the racks provided outside of the residential facilities. Individuals may store bicycles and scooters within individual rooms as long as each roommate agrees and the bicycle/scooter does not obstruct access to the room. Individuals may not ride bicycles or scooters within the residence halls.

Individuals may not store bicycles or scooters within public areas of buildings, on patios/balconies, or on/under stairwells. Additionally, gasoline/electric-powered scooter/moped/motorcycle must be stored outside of buildings, and are not permitted to be stored in bicycle racks. If you wish to park your gasoline/electric powered scooter/moped/motorcycle in a parking space, you must obtain a parking permit from Public Safety.

### **Candles, Incense, Open Flames**

Due to the potential risk to the welfare of the campus community, devices with open flames or open heating elements are not allowed on campus. This includes unused items intended for decoration. If these elements are to be found in a residents assigned living area, they will be confiscated by a professional staff member.

Flammable liquids such as gasoline and kerosene may not be kept in residential facilities.

### **Combustion Engines**

Engines such as those required on motorcycles or motorized bicycles are prohibited in university housing, including balconies, patios and building walkways, at all times.

### **Courtesy and Quiet Hours**

Courtesy and Quiet Hours exist to support the academic mission of the university by providing individuals with a space to study and rest. Both are predicated upon the mutual respect for individuals within the community.

Each residential community will maintain 24-hour Courtesy Hours. During this time, individuals should act appropriately so as not to disturb others in the community. Additionally, individuals should not direct amplified noise outside of the residence halls and apartments by placing speakers in windows facing outside, yelling, etc.

Quiet Hours are in place Sunday through Thursday from 11:00PM – 10:00AM and Friday and Saturday from 1:00AM – 10:00AM. During Quiet Hours individuals shall refrain from creating noise that may be heard outside of the individual's and other individual's assigned space.

The Housing & Residential Life Office may adjust Quiet Hours throughout the semester, such

as during midterms, finals week, and breaks.

## **Drugs**

In addition to the Student Code of Conduct policies related to “Drugs”, Housing & Residential Life recognizes that additional measures are required for a living environment which can be detrimentally effected by the use of drugs. To that end, Housing & Residential Life maintains a separate “Drugs” policy, which is utilized in addition to the Student Code of Conduct:

An odor from cannabis related products confirmed by two or more staff members may constitute a violation of this policy and therefore necessitates a meeting with a professional staff member.

Evidence suggesting an individual is selling and/or distributing illegal substances or synthetic type substances will be met with an elevated response due to the threat posed to the residential community.

## **Elevator Use**

Individuals may not misuse elevators in the residence halls, including, but not limited to, false alarms, vandalism, overcrowding, tampering, forcing doors open, or stopping the elevator. Any incident that incurs damage to the elevator as a result of misuse will be the responsibility of the student(s) involved and those student(s) will be financially responsible for the costs incurred to fix the damage. Additionally, elevators are limited to two (2) occupants at a time due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## **Guests and Visitors:**

In order to provide a safe and secure residential area, residents and their guests are expected to follow the University Guest Policy and Procedures. A resident is defined as a student who is currently assigned a bed space in campus housing at Webster University-Webster Groves Campus. A guest is defined as an individual who is not assigned to the host’s residential space and is visiting the host resident.

*Due to COVID-19, all guest/visitor policies are suspended in every Housing & Residential Life area. No guests/visitors are permitted inside buildings or in the resident’s assigned space. Violation of this policy may result in a resident’s immediate removal from the Housing & Residential Life area and termination of their housing contract.*

## **Front Desk: Residency Verification**

Every resident entering East, West, or Maria Halls is required to show their student ID to the Desk Attendant who is staffing the front desk area. Staff members will use the provided residency sticker to confirm the student’s resident status. Additionally, residents wishing to pick-up a package from the West Hall Package Room must show their confirmation email to the Desk Attendant, in order to gain entry to the package area.

The front desks are open in each residence hall during the following hours:

Monday – Thursday: 6:30PM – 8:30AM

Friday: 5:00PM – 8:30AM

Saturday and Sunday: 8:30AM – 8:30AM (24 hours)

Note that these hours may be adjusted during break periods or at the discretion of the Housing & Residential Life Office.

### **Hall Sports**

Sports activities are prohibited inside campus housing. Hall sports can create a disturbance and increase the possibility of personal injury and/or damage. This includes, but is not limited to, baseball, frisbee, football, hockey, skateboarding, rollerblading, nerf guns, soccer, or horseplay. In seeking to maintain residential facilities, individuals may not possess or use darts and/or dartboards.

### **Laundry**

The university provides laundry amenities for the residential population. Additionally, residents should take appropriate measures to maintain the washer and dryer units, including not overloading them and cleaning lint filters after use. The use of Tide Pods are strictly prohibited. Liquid detergents and softeners are the only approved cleaning agents for the washer and dryer units. If a resident is found to be using Tide Pods and damage is incurred to the machine, said student may be financially responsible for the cost to fix the damage.

Individuals residing in university leased properties located off campus such as Glen Park, Big Bend, and North Hall may not use laundry facilities located in East, West, or Maria Halls or in the WVA Clubhouse.

Due to COVID-19 all residents have been assigned a laundry schedule when their apartment, floor, or area is able to use the laundry spaces in order to control density within the laundry areas. Failure to follow the schedule will constitute a violation of the laundry policy.

### **Lighting Regulations and Safety (Electrical Outlets)**

Due to safety concerns, the university does not permit the modification of electrical outlets or use of extension cords or electrical outlet adapters. However, the university does allow the use Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) surge protectors/power strips with circuit breakers. The university does not allow the use of halogen light bulbs or any other light source that produces excessive heat, including lava lamps. In support of the university Sustainability Initiatives, the use of CFL or LED light bulbs are encouraged.

## **Occupancy Limits**

Areas within Housing & Residential Life are designated with occupancy limits per St. Louis County guidelines for COVID-19. Residents should adhere to these posted limits.

## **Painting**

Individuals may not paint their assigned living space. Murals or painting of hallways and other public areas is prohibited. If residents on campus damage any of the walls or floors, they are prohibited from painting over the damage and can be charged upon checkout depending on the seriousness of the damage. This also applies to Big Bend, Glen Park, and North Hall Apartments.

## **Patios & Balconies**

Individuals living in the Webster Village Apartments need to maintain the apartment's patio or balcony. This includes only using appropriate outdoor furniture. University-provided furniture may not be used for outdoor spaces. University provided furniture is not intended to be used outdoors. Any damage caused to university provided furniture will result in the resident assigned to that space incurring the cost of the replacement furniture.

Individuals may not hang items from the railing on the patios and balconies including drying clothes, banners, flags, or other items. Individuals may not place trash or any items that may be deemed trash outside their apartment door or on the patios. Trash and other items must be taken to the designated dumpster areas immediately.

## **Pets**

Pets are prohibited within university housing with the exception of fish or other underwater aquatic animal contained in a tank with a capacity of less than 10 gallons. All requests for an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) must be approved in writing through the ADA Coordinator in the Academic Resource Center.

## **Posting of Flyers**

Individuals may not post materials within the residential community. All materials must be brought to the Housing & Residential Life Office for approval. Once the materials are approved, Housing & Residential Life staff members will post them within the residential community. If an unapproved flier is found within the residential community, it will be removed immediately and the entity may be restricted from posting fliers within the community.

*Due to COVID-19, Housing & Residential Life will be consistently assessing the usage of paper postings within the Housing & Residential Life areas. In the event that guidance is provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or St. Louis County regarding paper postings, all hard copy flyer postings may be suspended without notice.*

## **Pranks and Practical Jokes**

Given the risk of personal injury or property damage, pranks and practical jokes, including, but not limited to, shaving cream and water fights, are prohibited on campus.

## **Roof Access**

Presence on university rooftops for any reason is prohibited.

## **Room Furnishings**

University-owned or -provided furniture items may not be removed from the space to which the item was assigned. Residents are responsible for the furniture items provided in the assigned spaces. Even spaces operating at single occupancy that are designed for two occupants must keep both sets of furniture within the space.

## **Solicitation**

Outside solicitation is prohibited in university housing. Solicitation is defined as: door-to-door contact for the purpose of soliciting funds or sales; recruiting members or support for an organization or cause; compiling data for surveys; distributing advertising or other materials; or use of hallways, lobby, or lounge areas for any of these purposes. Note that solicitation includes postings on exterior or hallway facing doors regarding causes, politics, organizations, or any other items that could be considered an informational or recruitment item.

Report door-to-door sales people, political campaigners, or other trespassers on the property to Housing & Residential Life staff.

## **Threatening Behavior**

Conduct that threatens the health and safety of oneself or any other person in or around Webster University operated areas is prohibited. Note that in a COVID-19 reality that threatening behavior can include: prohibited guests in university areas, coughing on someone, and/or other behaviors/actions which could result in the spread of COVID-19.

## **Unauthorized Student Entry**

Individuals may not possess, duplicate, or use keys and/or access codes to any university premises or enter or use university premises without proper authorization. Trespassing upon, forcibly entering, or otherwise proceeding into unauthorized areas of university owned or leased facilities, their roofs, or the residential space of another without permission is prohibited.

## **Vandalism**

Damage and vandalism to common areas in the residence halls and apartments will be attributed to the responsible individual or group who will then be charged for the repair or

replacement of the damaged property. Whenever it is not possible to assign charges for damage or theft of university property to specific individuals, those costs will be divided evenly among the smallest group of individuals to which the damage can be attributed. For this reason, it is important that a staff member be contacted immediately with information regarding damage to or theft of university and/or personal property.

### **Weapons and Firearms**

Individuals may not possess and/or use fireworks, firearms, other explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals on campus.

### **Wireless Internet and Technology Usage**

High speed wireless internet provided by the university is available campus wide. Students residing in West, East, and Maria Halls, the Webster Village Apartments, or North Hall Apartments are prohibited from setting up their own wireless routers or other wireless access points. The possibility of conflict with personal wireless routers or access points and the Webster wireless network will expose the university to considerable security risk and network service disruptions. Discovery of unapproved installations of equipment that conflicts with Webster network services will result in termination of the network connection. The offending equipment must be immediately removed from connection to the Webster network. Disciplinary action will result and sanctions will be determined based on the severity to damage caused, but could include restriction from continued use of the Webster network.

Students are expected to review the university's [information technology policies](#). Any student found violating any of the IT policies will be sent through the judicial process.

Wireless internet access is provided to residents at the Webster Groves campus, including the Webster Village Apartments, East & West Hall, and Maria Hall. Some locations still have wired data ports available, which residents may continue to use. You will need an Ethernet cable (RJ45) to connect your device. However, these ports should be used to connect end devices only, such as desktops and laptops. Unmanaged wireless routers are prohibited.

### **Windows**

Window screens must remain in windows and may not be removed. Individuals may not use open windows as entrances and/or exits. Additionally, individuals may not throw objects out of windows. Further, windows are not permitted for use to hang items such as banners, flags, or other view obstructing materials

**\*The Housing and Residential Life Policies are subject to change.**